

- The BDR Registrar submits assessment referrals to Alcohol and other Drugs Top End Health Service or Alcohol and other Drugs Central Australia (ADSCA).
- Referred clients may be on the Banned Drinker Register (BDR) or the BDR Registrar may be in the process of considering an application to put the person on the BDR.
- A person on the BDR can contact AOD TEHS or ADSCA directly to request assessment and therapeutic support.
- The assessing clinician provides a report to the BDR Registrar and a recommendation about making a Banned Drinker Order (BDO) and therapeutic support.
- Therapeutic support includes psychosocial interventions ranging from counselling to residential rehabilitation and can be provided by any existing service in the NT that delivers programs to people with alcohol problems.

What is involved in a clinical assessment?

A clinical assessment involves undertaking a biopsychosocial assessment, including alcohol use history and health check of the person. Assessment can include health checks such as blood tests, cognitive tests, and consideration of underlying chronic health conditions, and seeking information on the home and support system of a person.

The assessment takes around two hours to complete.

What does the clinician have to do as part of the assessment?

The clinician will conduct a biopsychosocial assessment of the person and complete an assessment report to assist the BDR Registrar to determine if a person's alcohol use is causing harm to the health, safety or wellbeing of the person or other people.

For clients not already on the BDR the assessment report will include a recommendation as to whether a Banned Drinker Order (BDO) should be made and a therapeutic support program based on their circumstances. For clients already on the BDR an assessment report and recommendation for therapeutic support program is required.

When is a clinical assessment required?

A person who goes onto the BDR will be able to access an assessment through the BDR Registrar's office or directly with an Alcohol and other Drugs service.

A person can choose to undertake an assessment at any time even if they are not on the BDR or already have a ban.

What if a person refuses to undertake an assessment?

A person will not be forced to undertake an assessment. In the case of authorised person applications, not attending the assessment will not prevent a person from being put on the BDR if the BDR Registrar determines on the evidence that they meet the criteria for a BDO.

Can a person be detained during an assessment?

No. The usual protocols around managing voluntary assessment apply.

What is a therapeutic support?

Therapeutic supports can include a range of therapies from counselling, other psychosocial interventions to residential rehabilitation.

Therapies can include relapse prevention programs, motivational interviewing, cognitive behavior therapy; life skills, coping skills and anger management courses, relationship counselling, social & emotional wellbeing programs.

The clinical assessment will determine what therapeutic support is best suited to each person's situation and recommend a suitable program.

Therapeutic support can be provided by any existing service in the Northern Territory that delivers programs to people with alcohol problems.

What happens if a person does not finish their therapeutic support program as recommended?

They will not be eligible to reduce their ban.

A person who does not finish their program and wants to reduce their ban length will need to seek advice from the BDR Registrar.

Can a person source their own therapeutic support to reduce their ban?

A person can organise their own clinical assessment and therapeutic support; however if they wish to have their ban time reduced, they will need to provide evidence of assessment and participation in and completion of recommended therapeutic support.

Can a person be detained while undergoing a therapeutic support?

No. The usual protocols around managing voluntary withdrawal and treatment apply.

Where does a clinician find the forms?

A report template and BDR assessment guidelines can be requested from BannedDrinkerRegister.doh@nt.gov.au

What interaction does the Clinician have with the BDR Registrar?

The BDR Registrar communicates with the clinician via email but may need to speak to the clinician to clarify information contained in the assessment report or seek additional information.

Will a clinician be asked to justify their assessment during an appeal?

A person who does not agree with being placed on the BDR Register can ask for their case to be reviewed by Northern Territory Civil Administrative Tribunal (NTCAT). In that instance, the BDR Registrar will appear before the Tribunal if requested. The clinician may be requested to appear to clarify assessment content

How does a person access an assessment or therapeutic supports?

More information on seeking an assessment or therapeutic support is available online at www.banneddrinkerregister.nt.gov.au and needs to be emailed to BannedDrinkerRegister.doh@nt.gov.au.



Making our community safer

1800 BDR 226
www.BannedDrinkerRegister.nt.gov.au